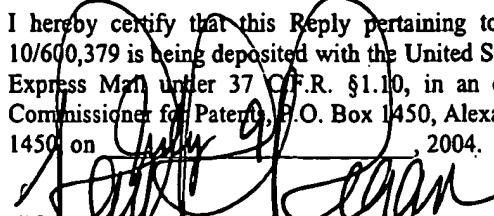


07-12-04

IPN AF/3679



I hereby certify that this Reply pertaining to Application Number 10/600,379 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via Express Mail under 37 C.F.R. §1.10, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on July 9, 2004.


Ray R. Regan, Attorney for Applicant, Registration No.36,899

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DPS In re Application of: Steve B. Taylor
Sole Inventor: Steve B. Taylor
For: A Coupler
Filing Date: June 20, 2003
Application Number: 10/600,379
Attorney Docket Number: 2236.001
Express Mail Label Number: ER813737003US
Group Art Unit: 3679
Examiner: Victor MacArthur

**AMENDED
REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION NUMBER 02 (FINAL)
MAILED BY THE EXAMINER ON MAY 6, 2004
IN RESPONSE TO ADVISORY ACTION MAILED JUNE 30, 2004**

To: Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Introductory Comments

In response to the Final Office Action dated May 6, 2004, having a statutory period for response of six months as provided in 35 U.S.C. § 133 reduced by the Commissioner to three